

JPL-73442

1 May 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: Establishment of the Pacific ~~Theater~~
Military Intelligence Research Section

I. DISCUSSION

I. Importance of Captured documents. a. During the present war enemy documents captured on the field of battle have proved one of the most valuable of all sources of military information. The information obtainable from them is both tactical and strategic in character and affects all aspects of military intelligence: Order of Battle, weapons, equipment, methods of employment, fortifications, topography including terrain, communications, uniforms, and psychological, political, and economic factors.

b. Captured documents differ from all other sources of information in that they are the only form in which the enemy tells his own story authoritatively, voluntarily, and reliably.

c. Captured documents are of immense value in interpreting information from all other sources.

d. Captured documents are among the best technical aids in the training of intelligence personnel.

2. Experience in the handling of documents in the European and Mediterranean Theaters. a. The machinery for the collection and exploitation of enemy documents and the dissemination of the information extracted therefrom is very well developed and has operated with

eminent success in the European and Mediterranean Theaters. Its basic principles are aggressive collection, thorough extraction of all pertinent information of interest at every echelon, and speedy transmission through channels from the forward areas to a single agency for collation and long-range exploitation in the War Office and the War Department.

b. At each stage in the passage of documents back from the forward areas care is taken that all organizations and agencies have an opportunity to extract the information of value to them. Signal documents are turned over to the nearest signal intelligence station for special handling. In no other case are documents diverted from the prescribed channels, so that their final collection at a single point in the rear is assured. This obviates the setting up of separate document exploitation centers, none of which would be provided with all the material or would be able to disseminate intelligence based on the entire picture.

c. All documents originating in the European and Mediterranean Theaters are transmitted as rapidly as possible to the London Branch, Military Intelligence Research Section. Here all military information having a direct bearing on operations is extracted and disseminated to SHAEF, AFHQ, the War Office, the Air Ministry, the Admiralty, the MEW, and other interested agencies. Copies of documents are made where a permanent record is desired. After this processing in London, all documents are sent to the Washington Branch, Military Intelligence Research Section, located at Fort Hunt, Virginia, *where they remain as the joint property of the United States and British armies.* Here background military information of a long-range nature is extracted and compiled

AC 56-2 The results of all research are immediately available to all concerned.
all agencies concerned
in the form of reference material for the use of ~~the various theaters,~~
~~the War Office, and the War Department.~~

d. The Military Intelligence Research Section is ~~a combined~~ an organization set up to coordinate the collection and exploitation of enemy documents captured in the European war (German, Italian, and Balkan). The London Branch, located in London, is composed of approximately 80 specialists, including 18 United States officers, 38 United States enlisted men, British officers, enlisted men, and civilians, and Polish officers. The Washington Branch, at Fort Hunt, Virginia, is composed of one British officer, two United States officers, and 20 United States enlisted men.

3. As London is considered by the Allies as the intelligence centre for the European Theater, Washington is considered the intelligence centre for the Pacific Theatres.

4. Application of document handling experience to the Pacific Theater.

a. At the present time enemy documents captured in the Pacific Theater are processed to a limited extent by the intelligence staffs in the several parts of that theater. Only the most important documents are translated and exploited. Enemy documents are not collected at any central point and are not exploited for all types of information.

b. It is vital that the experience gained in the handling of documents in the European Theater be applied in the further development of the system of military intelligence for the Pacific Theater. The same basic principles are valid, subject only to the differences in distances, type of warfare, and the enemy's methods and practices.

immediate
 c. The establishment of the Pacific ~~Branch~~, Military Intelligence Research Section at Fort Hunt, Virginia, would make possible the thorough and scientific exploitation of captured Japanese documents to the benefit of all *concerned* ~~echelons, and of all branches~~. A location in the vicinity of Washington is necessary to facilitate the constant and essential coordination with the research branches of the Military Intelligence Service, other divisions of the ^{ONI, FEA, FBI} Army, ^{any} and other government agencies *concerned* ~~such as FEA, FBI, and ONI~~. The location at Fort Hunt *would* ~~is chosen in order to~~ take advantage of the existing overhead facilities already there. *Certain intelligence activities are now operated at Fort Hunt as a mutually satisfactory joint army - navy project.*
 d. The proposed Pacific ~~Branch~~, MIRS, will be organized similarly to the London Branch, MIRS. The only available basis at present for estimating the strength which will be required is the London Branch as now constituted. This is subject to revision at some future time according to the quantity and quality of the documentary material received. *Personnel would be assigned only as required.* It is expected that the United States Navy, the Army Air Forces, and other ~~authorized government~~ agencies will supply personnel in direct proportion to the amount of information which they derive from the organization. *An agreement to this general effect now exists for all documents which the British War Office and Air Ministry will* ~~The British War Office and Air Ministry will~~ *There is every reason to believe the War Office would participate.* ~~likewise be represented,~~ *should* ~~but they are not expected to contribute in~~ *be able to* proportion to the information received due to the shortage of British personnel with the Japanese language qualification.

e. The Table of Organization of the United States personnel in the London Branch, MIRS, is attached as Tab A, ~~and~~ *for* The proposed Table of Organization for the Pacific ~~Branch~~, MIRS, is attached as Tab B.

~~5. The work should begin immediately. What allotments the MIRS may have after the reorganization of the division which would be~~

This conversation of the Navy, Dept of State, ACJ, AS(I) British Air Ministry, G-2, H-4, H-5, and G-6, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

~~available for this project are not now known.~~

II. ACTION RECOMMENDED

1. That ~~the Military Intelligence Service be authorized to form~~^{be authorized}
The Pacific Branch, Military Intelligence Research Section, at Fort
Hunt, Virginia, ~~and that it be authorized an~~^{with the} allotment of grades
and ratings set forth in Tab B, for the purpose of exploiting cap-
tured Japanese documents.

III. CONCURRENCES

Assistant Chief of Staff, G 1 ()

Assistant Chief of Staff, G 3 ()

Assistant Chief of Staff, OPD ()

CLAYTON BISSELL,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2.

ALLOTMENT

London Branch

(Authorized TAG letter AG 230.2 (2 June 43) PO-M-SPGAO.)

Military Intelligence Research Section

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Liaison*</u>	<u>German</u>	<u>Italian</u>	<u>Balkan</u>	<u>Administrative</u>	<u>Total</u>
Major	2	1	1			4
Captain	2	3	1	1		7
1st Lieutenant	2	3	1	1		7
Total	6	7	3	2		18
<u>Enlisted Personnel</u>						
Master Sergeants	3	2	1			6
Technical Sergeants	3	2	1	1		7
Technical Specialist						
Third Grade	3	3	1	1		8
Technical Specialist						
Fourth Grade	3	4	2	2		11
Technical Specialist						
Fifth Grade		2	1	1	2**	6
Total	12	13	6	5	2	38

* Six teams consisting of one officer and two enlisted men are provided in this section. These teams will be the nucleus for a document receiving section as is now in operation at AFHQ, Algiers. During periods of no field activity, they will be used for document research,

** One detachment clerk and one chauffeur.

TAB
R

PROPOSED ALLOTMENT

Pacific ~~Branch~~

Military Intelligence Research Section

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lieutenant Colonel	1
Major	3
Captain	7
1st Lieutenant	<u>7</u>
Total	<u>18</u>
<u>Enlisted Personnel</u>	
Master Sergeants	6
Technical Sergeants	7
Technical Specialist	
Third Grade	9
Technical Specialist	
Fourth Grade	14
Technical Specialist	
Fifth Grade	<u>2*</u>
Total	38

* One detachment clerk and one chauffeur.

TAB
B